

Message Text

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PAGE 01 COPENH 00772 060815Z

21

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-11 ISO-00 FEA-01 ACDA-05 AGR-05 AID-05

CEA-01 CEQ-01 CG-00 CIAE-00 CIEP-01 OFA-01 COME-00

DLOS-04 DODE-00 DOTE-00 EB-07 EPA-01 ERDA-05 FMC-01

TRSE-00 H-02 INR-07 INT-05 JUSE-00 L-03 NSAE-00

NSC-05 NSF-01 OES-03 OMB-01 PA-01 PM-04 PRS-01 SP-02

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INFO AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

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E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EFIS, PLOS, UK

SUBJECT: U..K. AND THE 200-MILE FISHERIES REGIME

PASS COMMERCE, NOAA/WALLACE; NMFS/BLONDIN

1. THE U.K. FISHING INDUSTRY IS BEING SQUEEZED INTO AN
UNENVIABLE POSITION; ITS DISTANT-WATER FLEET IS BEING
JEOPARDIZED, NOTABLY BY ICELAND, AND THE EC HAS
ADVANCED A PROPOSAL FOR CONTROL OF ALL EC WATERS
INCLUDING THE UK'S RICH, COASTAL WATERS. ALL EC MEMBERS
COMBINED CATCH BETWEEN 55-60 PERCENT OF THEIR FISH PRODUCTION
IN WATERS WHICH WOULD COME UNDER UK'S PROTECTION IN A
200-MILE REGIME. UK OFFICIALS ESTIMATE THAT WITHIN A
200 MILE UK ZONE THE RESOURCES ARE DISTRBUTED APPPROXIMATELY
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AS FOLLOWS:

50 MILE ZONE - 70 PERCENT OF THE RESOURCES
25 MILE ZONE - 50 PERCENT OF THE RESOURCES
12 MILE ZONE - 25 PERCENT OF THE RESOURCES

THE TOTAL CATCH WITHIN 200 MILES OF THE UK IN 1973 WAS
2.2 MILLION TONS; OF THIS THE UK CAUGHT 0.8 MILLION TONS.
THUS THE UK FISHING INDUSTRY CAN VISUALIZE THE REVITALIZA-
TION OF THEIR INDUSTRY FROM THEIR OWN COASTAL WATERS IF
THEY GAIN CONTROL OF THEM.

2. THE UK FISHING INDUSTRY HAS BEEN FOR SOME TIME LOUDLY
DEMANDING A LARGER SHARE OF THEIR OWN COASTAL RESOURCES.
THE FISHING OF THESE NEARBY RESOURCES WOULD REDUCE FUEL
BILLS AND HELP OFFSET THE EFFECT OF THE STOPPING, IN 1976,
OF A SUBSIDY WHICH PARTIALLY DEFRAIDED INCREASED COSTS FOR
FUEL AND OIL-DERIVED NETS AND LINES. NEVERTHELESS, DESPITE
THE ASSISTANCE, BETWEEN THE END OF 1973 AND NOVEMBER, 1975,
ALMOST 100 DISTANT-WATER TRAWLERS, OR APPROXIMATELY 20 PERCENT
OF THE FLEET, WERE TIED UP. THIS DOWNWARD TREND IS
EXPECTED TO CONTINUE DURING THIS CALENDAR YEAR. ALSO
THE UK COULD, IN AN EXPANDED UK EXCLUSIVE ZONE, INITIATE
AND EFFECTIVELY CONTROL A FISHER MANAGEMENT PROGRAM WHICH
COULD REBAHABILITATE SOME OF TE BADLY DEPLETED STOCKS.

3. AT THE RECNET, MARCH 1-2 EC FOREIGN MINISTERS COUNCIL MEETING,
BRITISH FOREIGN MINISTER CALLAGHAN WAS WUOTED IN THE
DANISH PRESS AS SAYING HE FAVORED A NATIONAL COASTAL ZONE
WITHOUT MENTIONED ANY SPECIFIC FIGURE. HE WAS ALSO
QUOTED AS SAYING THAT THE UK DOES NOT INTEND TO JUST
PRESENT A GIFT OF ITS RESOURCES TO OTHER EC COUNTRIES.
PRIVATELY, FIGURES OF 25 AND 60 MILES WERE REPORTEDLY
DISCUSSED.

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